

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

ACDA-07 EB-07 SEC-01 DHA-02 /086 W

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R 200849Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA JPAPN

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUNC KOREA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 12649

E.BMO. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, POPS, JA, KS

SUBJECT: FURTHER JAPANESE REACTION TO PANMUNJOM INCIDENT

REF: TOKYO 12572

1. PRESS COVERAGE REMAINS FACTUAL AND REMARKABLY LOW KEY; STILL NO COMMENTARY. EMPHASIS IS ON AUGMENTATION OF U.S. FORCES IN KOREA AND ALERTS OF U.S. FORCES IN JAPAN. DIRGEN NORTH AMERICAN BUREAU YAMAZAKI AND SATO, DIRECTOR, SECURITY DIVISION, NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU, ATTRIBUTED PAUCITY OF JAPANESE REACTION TO DATE TO MEDIA ANTICIPATION OF FURTHER ARRESTS IN CONJUNCTION WITH LOCKHEED INVESTIGATION (STORIES HAD BEEN PREPARED IN ANTICIPATION ARRESTS WOULD TAKE PLACE AUGUST 19 EVEN THOUGH THEY FAILED TO MATERIALIZE), AND TO INCLINATION OF LEFTIST-INCLINED REPORTERS TO BURY STORY LESS IT STIMULATE SECURITY DEBATE WITH RESULTANT SUPPORT FOR JAPAN'S DEFENSE EFFORT. YAMAZAKI NOTED AKAHATA CARRIED MODEST COVERAGE OF INCIDENT ON INSIDE PAGES LIMITING ITSELF TO ACCOUNT FROM PYONGYANG THAT NORTH KOREA WAS ON WAR FOOTING; HE SAW THIS AS FURTHER SIGN THAT THERE WAS NO NORTH KOREAN  
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INTENTION TO ESCALATE.

2. YAMAZAKI TOLD POLCOUNS MOFA ANALYZING INCIDENT  
BUT HE WAS INCLINED TO BELIEVE KILLING OF U.S.  
OFFICERS WAS NOT ORDERED BY PYONGYANG EVEN THOUGH  
DELIBERATE EFFORT MAY HAVE BEEN MADE TO SHOW PRESENCE  
OF U.S. TROOPS CREATED VOLATILE SITUATION ALONG  
DMZ. NORTH KOREAN ACTION APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN TIMED  
WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN COLOMBO AND UN IN MIND BUT MOFA DID  
NOT THINK EVENTS WOULD ESCALATE AS LONG AS U.S.  
REFAINED FROM RETALIATION THROUGH USE OF FORCE. U.S.  
DEPLOYMENTS TO DATE WERE NATURAL COUNTERMEASURES  
AND DID NOT FALL IN THE CATEGORY OF SUCH ACTIONS.  
NORTHEAST ASIAN DIVDIR WHO CHARGED WITH PREPARING  
FORMAL ANALYSIS OF INCIDENT TOLD EMBOFF LATER HE  
INCLINED TO BELIEVE NORTH KOREANS CREATED CONDITIONS  
LEADING TO INCIDENT IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE VALIDITY  
OF STATEMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS AT NAC AND UNGA.  
KILLING OF AMERICAN OFFICERS, HE FELT, MAY HAVE BEEN  
AN ACCIDENT.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, DMZ, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, PFOR, POPS, DEATHS, BORDER INCIDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976TOKYO12649  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760319-0937  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 76 TOKYO 12572  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 27 MAY 2004  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FURTHER JAPANESE REACTION TO PANMUNJOM INCIDENT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MOPS, JA, KS, US  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC SEOUL COMUS JAPAN CINCPAC HONOLULU CINCUNC KOREA  
**Type:** TE  
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